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THIRTEENTH ANNUAL CATALOG

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LESLIE E.
DOOLITTLE'S
DAHLIAS

DEL MONTE
CALIFORNIA

SEASON
1923

RESULTS:

WE GIVE THEM

YOU GET THEM

WE BOTH HAVE THEM

GREETING

TO OUR FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS

IT is with a greater degree of satisfaction, perhaps, than ever before experienced, that I begin work upon this, my THIRTEENTH ANNUAL CATALOG of DAHLIAS.

Each mail brings its one or more letters from successful customers, and these letters are indeed ample reward for our years of effort put forth in bringing new Dahlias into the world.

To my many friends and customers who have in the past shown such splendid confidence in me, time and again, do I wish to express my sincere appreciation once more.

I trust that you, as well as my newer customers, may enjoy the greatest possible success with the Dahlias ordered this season.

We stand ready, as ever, to lend any and all assistance possible.

We are always learning something more about Dahlias, and I will now suggest that all my readers look well into the latest methods of Dahlia culture, as our own results are more than satisfactory, in having followed the rules which are advocated in this booklet.

Before planting, please read the following pages carefully, and when the blooms appear, let us know of your success.

Also, Mr. and Mrs. Dahlia Fancier, likewise Miss Fancier, please read my ideas regarding the Doolittle Method of Classification of Dahlias.

While you may be acting as a Judge, or as Secretary, or President of some Dahlia Society, it behooves you to act with knowledge upon this subject.

May every Dahlia exhibitor do his or her "bit" to see that the newer types of Dahlias are classified.

For better Classification, and for better Dahlias, I am

Faithfully yours,

LESLIE E. DOOLITTLE.

WE ARE MEMBERS OF

The DAHLIA SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA San Francisco
The NATIONAL DAHLIA SOCIETY OF AMERICA . . Seattle, Wash.
The AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY New York City

INSTRUCTIONS IN PLANTING

By Leslie E. Doolittle

The time for planting the Dahlia tuber is in the spring, or early summer, after all danger of frosts is past. This rule will apply to every climate. For instance, in the New England States, April 15th to May 15th is the proper time for planting, while in the Southern States and in Southern California, Dahlias are often planted as early as January and February. We begin planting in March, at Del Monte.

The Dahlia tuber, in the condition in which it reaches the customer, needs neither a severe soaking in water nor a strong stimulant in the way of a fertilizer, in planting. These two elements have been worked overtime in the planting of Dahlias, with often otherwise than the best results. Speaking from experience, and with knowledge of the results in the different soils, my advice to the customer is the same rule as that which I follow. Too much early watering will, if the tuber survives the drowning process, create the action of the potash in the soil, which will cause wood growth, the plant growing tall and the blooms more or less inferior, and being an unnatural growth, the tubers, when lifted, will be found to be of mammoth size, with weakened crown, which will be found to decay readily and without apparent cause.



Manure coming in contact with the tuber, will cause scab, weaken the tuber, and often destroy it.

Plant, therefore, in well-worked soil, two and one-half to three feet apart, at a depth of five or six inches, in earth as free from fermenting vegetation and manure as possible. Give them just enough water, when above ground, to keep them growing slowly. Apply manures and water in quantities, only after the plant starts to bud, and it will be found that you have saved the forcing quality for the blooms instead of its being expended upon stalk growth.

Up to the time the plant comes into bud it is greatly benefited by trimming off of the older foliage with a sharp knife, being careful not to trim off any of the future budding growth, my idea being that it is especially necessary, in order to have good blooms, that the foliage be kept clean, as it is through the pores of the plant that the oxygen is absorbed. By spraying with a sharp force of water from the garden hose, the plant can ordinarily be kept in a healthy condition, and this should be done at close intervals, in accordance with weather conditions.



DAHLIAS BLOOM FREELY AT DEL MONTE

For forcing, where chicken manure can be obtained I recommend its use, though barnyard manure is excellent. Feed the plant only after the eye, or sprout, has formed root feeders, it being remembered that the dormant tuber acts as a feeder only to the new sprout, and could not possibly absorb liquid to its advantage. Be careful not to use too great a percentage of nitrate of soda, as it will retard your blooms and make the stems very long, but weak. Phosphates are what are needed to produce good blooms, potash for wood growth and nitrates for a healthy foliage. I caution my customers against using too much fertilizer, but recommend working the soil a great deal.

Do not allow the blooms to seed, but cut all the old blooms, together with as much stem as possible. If allowed to seed, the variety will fast deteriorate.

I wish to give another rule, also, as regards the fertilizer to be used. Three seasons past I hit upon the idea of working back to the soil that which has been taken out; so after saving all of my trimmings from the Dahlia plants, including old blooms, waste tubers, etc., from my previous crop, I made a huge compost pile of these, together with oak leaf mold and soil, and at planting time dug holes eighteen inches deep and about the same in diameter, and also put in two good shovelfuls of my compost mixed with more straight soil until the hole was filled within about eight inches of the surface of the garden bed, then a bit more straight soil, so that the tuber would not come in direct contact with the compost, then planted in the position in which the tuber is shown in this cut, and covered the crown or top of the tuber with straight soil to a depth of from four to six inches. The results which were

attained were quite the best yet, and not one bit of manure of any sort was used during the entire season. I used

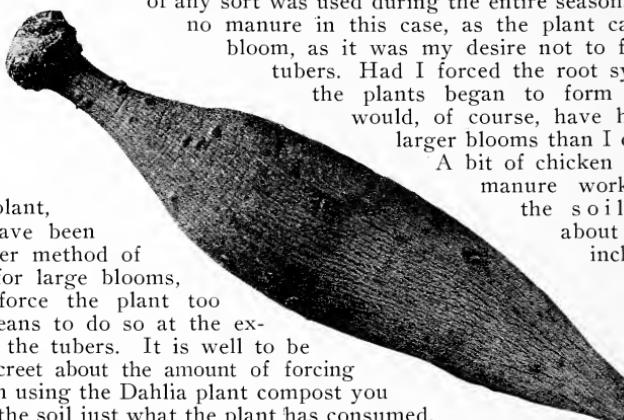
no manure in this case, as the plant came into bloom, as it was my desire not to force the tubers. Had I forced the root system as the plants began to form buds, I would, of course, have had even larger blooms than I did have.

A bit of chicken or sheep manure worked into the soil lightly, about eighteen inches from the base

of the plant, would have been the proper method of forcing for large blooms, but to force the plant too much means to do so at the expense of the tubers. It is well to be a bit discreet about the amount of forcing given. In using the Dahlia plant compost you put into the soil just what the plant has consumed, and what it will consume again, so this, you will find, is a well-balanced Dahlia plant food.

After the plant is through blooming in the fall it is best to trim the plant in much the same manner as shown on next page. It will be noted that the stalk of the plant is cut above the last joint nearest the top of the plant. Having been cut at this height, it will be seen that it avoids leaving a large opening in the stalk, as would have been the case had it been cut lower on the plant, which would have allowed rain water to stand in the stalk, and would be apt to start decay at the base of the old stalk, this being the vital point of the new crop of tubers, and is what we term the "crown." It is here that the new eyes, or shoots, appear.

The large tuber on the right of this clump of tubers is what is termed the "mother" tuber, and should be destroyed at time of separating, as it is apt to decay another season, after being planted the second time. It will also be found that this old tuber does not multiply to any great extent, as the food values it contained have been absorbed by the newer growth.





After trimming the plants in the manner indicated, leave the plant undisturbed for a few weeks, or until the stalks are thoroughly dried, which will be an indication that the tubers are quite thoroughly matured, **but not cured**. We now reach the point where extreme care should be exercised. It would be well to loosen the entire clump, cutting all the feeders, or roots, at the extreme end of the tubers, and leave in the same spot in the garden with sufficient soil heaped about the clump to avoid its freezing. Leave in this condition for a few days, then lift the clump carefully so as not to break the necks of the tubers, place the clump upon a suitable rack, for washing, remove all the soil by means of a stream of water from the garden hose, and leave in the open air for a few hours only, to dry a bit, then place upon a bench or suitable table built to a proper height as to enable one to work to the best possible advantage in separating. The manner of separating is shown here, also the tools necessary to do good work.

After separating, the tubers should appear much the same as the single tuber shown on page four, all decay removed and broken ends carefully trimmed. Now place the tubers in an open, airy situation for a few hours, in order that the cuts may become thoroughly dry, then pack away in sawdust

or shavings, until planting out time. Labels with name of the variety being handled, should be constantly used in this work, to avoid getting the stock mixed.

In case the tubers shrivel too greatly, it is a sign that they have not been handled according to directions, but do not become disgusted or discouraged, but try again, as there is no mystery connected with Dahlia culture. I have found that there is only a little knack about it, after a person has good stock to work with. It is essential that the grower from whom you buy your stock does not allow it to go to seed at random, in the fall. At this time the frosts appear, driving the sap downward toward the new tubers, and apparently taking minute particles of coloring matter with it, to the new growth. When pollen has been carried from other, and stronger colored varieties, and the plant is allowed to seed in the fall, deterioration may be expected. Light colored blooms will often come blotched or streaked with the offending color, and again the weaker plant will throw blooms that are distorted, misshapen, and otherwise deteriorated. A large percentage of the stock of new varieties now being offered throughout the country has been very much affected in this manner.

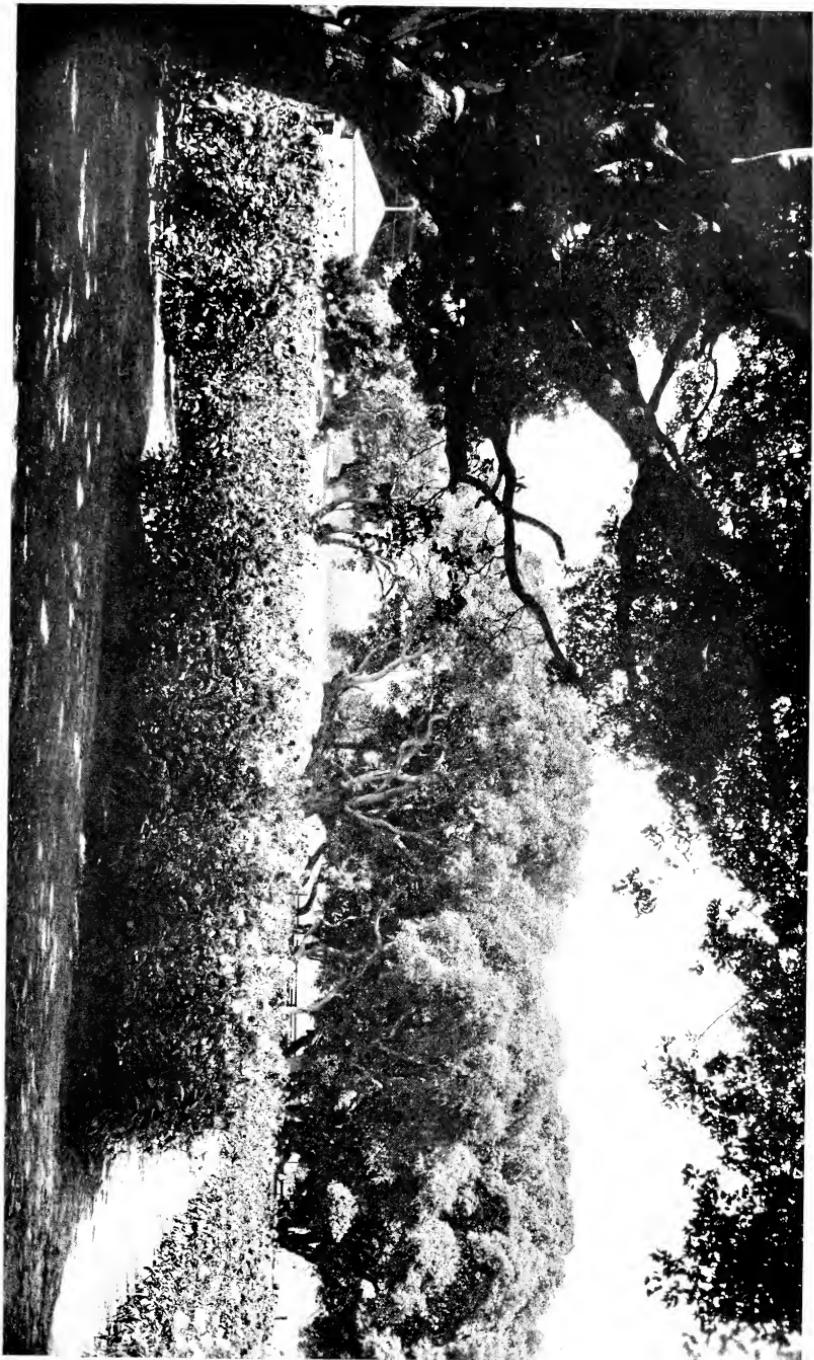


Necessary Tools to be
Used in the
Separation of Tubers
are Here Shown

Manner of Use of Tools
in Separating
Is Here Shown



The large tuber on the left of this clump of tubers is what is termed the "mother" tuber, and should be destroyed at time of separating, as it is apt to decay another season, after being planted the second time.



THE DAHLIA GARDENS ARE A GREAT ATTRACTION AT DEL MONTE

LESLIE E. DOOLITTLE'S DAHLIAS

AT DEL MONTE

WON THE HIGHEST AWARD EVER OFFERED

GOLD MEDAL, BEST GENERAL DISPLAY, OFFICIAL DAHLIA SHOW, P. P. I. E., 1915

Word from a few of our SATISFIED CUSTOMERS

From J. C. M., Cleveland, Ohio:

"The Wizard of Oz" is a wonder. Had 29 wonderful, perfect blooms, to date, and the plant is loaded with buds."

L. E. B., Fresno, Calif., writes:

"Last season I was so fortunate as to visit your beautiful gardens, and was overwhelmed with the wonderful splendor and beauty of your Dahlias, so am enclosing an order."

C. S., of Oakland, Calif., referring to The Wizard of Oz, writes:

"I consider this one of the finest creations in recent years, and as a grower I would consider it a great mistake not to have it in my collection."

From H. R. Tiverton, Rhode Island:

"Am enclosing a picture of your Dahlia, Earle Williams, as it bloomed for me. This bloom was two weeks old when the picture was taken. It has the most wonderful keeping qualities, on the plant, that I have seen. It is certainly a free bloomer, and one of the most admired in my garden."

Mrs. R. C. W., Los Angeles, Calif., writes:

"Order enclosed, etc.; have seen many Dahlia gardens, but none so beautiful as yours, nor so well cared for; the memory of it will stay with me always."

E. W. D., New Bedford, Mass., writes:

"The tubers received today. They are very clean looking and in perfect condition, every one of them. Had The Wizard of Oz last season. It is a wonderful Dahlia. Have sent you two orders this season, and hope to send you another soon."

W. P., of Santa Barbara, Calif., writes:

"Nobilis is the 'star' of my garden. Congratulations. Could have sold all of my stock of this many times over. Even had 15 blooms of this at as late date as Christmas week, last season."

E. L. N., Houston, Texas, sends this:

"Check enclosed in payment of 25 more tubers—selection left to you. Had wonderful success with tubers purchased from you two years ago."

Mrs. S. L. W., of Jersey Shore, Pa., writes:

"Am enclosing clippings from our local papers. Carried my blooms 18 miles to show them. (Won first prizes.) My Dahlias bought of you are just wonderful—words can never tell how beautiful they are. The Screamer and Nobilis were especially fine."

Mrs. F. F., of Trenton, N. J., says:

"The Screamer is the favorite in my garden—people cannot say too many nice things about The Wizard of Oz—we can sit around the fire in the winter time, close our eyes and see this in all its beauty, and look forward to growing it again next season."

Richard M. Buttle, President of the National Dahlia Society of America, Seattle, Wash., writes:

"It appears to me that you have the best of us beaten, for fine new Dahlia creations. The Wizard of Oz grew nearly 14 inches in diameter—the finest Dahlia I know, and I have made it a policy to get all the newer ones as they are introduced."

GENERAL LIST OF VARIETIES

ATTENTION—A 1923 introduction, of the Art, or Peony flowering type. On splendid upright stem. The colorings are a light claret wine, shading to pink, each petal being heavily tipped with white. One of our own. Tubers, each \$2.50.

Arrelanes—Peony flowering. A beautiful shade of DuBarry red. Very prolific in bloom, and upon a good stem. 1923 introduction. Tubers, each \$2.00.

Ami Descins'—Peony flowering blooms of great size and unusual coloring. Long, loose petals. Autumn tints, of the deeper shades. The stem is fairly upright. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Arguella—A Decorative peony flowering Dahlia. A new shade of deepest rose, with a deeper shade of what might be called old Burgundy, suffused throughout the bloom. A splendid new variety. Tubers, each \$2.50.

Alvesia—Peony flowering. A large flower, of soft cerise pink. Tubers, each 50c.

Attraction—Peony type. Slightly bordering toward the Cactus type. The color is an orchid to lavender pink. Delicate and pretty. Tubers, each 75c.

B. T. Dennes—P. Deepest cherry red and mahogany shades, with two to three rows of petals, beautifully curved. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Byron—Decor. This does as well in our garden as most any Dahlia we have, and we think a great deal of it, although it is one of our older Dahlias. Of immense size and great depth. Rich, deep wine color. Tubers, each 75c.

Betsy Bobin—A little Single type of flower. This has proven to be one of the favorites in this type. An attractive shade of amber pink, or old rose. Tubers, each 50c.

Canary Cottage—A Double Peony type, with beautifully quilled petals. A rich shade of canary yellow. Large blooms, and strong, wiry stems. Our own introduction. Tubers, each \$1.50.

Clara Seaton—Show type, with a short, quilled petal. The color is a rich golden bronze. This is one of the best in similar types, if not the very best. Does well everywhere. Our own. Tubers, each 75c.

Conquest—Cactus type. A very prolific blooming plant. Maroon shades. Tubers, each 75c.

City of Portland—Peony flowering. One of the largest and most desirable clear, canary yellow Dahlias. Its long, graceful petals are beautifully twisted and curved. Tubers, each \$3.00.

Claret Beauty—Decor. Deepest claret wine color. Good stems, and free in bloom. A very good Dahlia for the price. Tubers, each 50c.

Creamotto—Sometimes called Creamo. Decor-peony type. A Dahlia of most excellent habits, it having strong, upright stems, good blooming qualities. As a cut flower, it is one of the best. A large, light creamy yellow flower. Our own. Tubers, each 75c.

Cadiz—Decor-Cactus. A "sport" from the well-known Dahlia Kalif, but it is several shades lighter than the latter, otherwise is about the same type of flower. The color is a rich orange. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Chowchilla—Peony. Bright, warm yellow, on a wiry stem. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Cardoza—Peony. Deep violet purple. Of good size, and with good stem. Tubers, each 75c.

Cream King—Peony. A well-known standard variety, of which we have very fine stock. An immense bloom of light, lemon cream. Tubers, each 75c.

Copper—Peony. A combination of coppery yellow tones, with just a suggestion of pink. One of the most showy Dahlias for the garden. Tubers, each 75c.

C. C. Moore—Peony. A pleasing shade of orange buff. The blooms are thrown out from the plant, on strong stems. The flower is very satisfactory. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Crystal—Cactus. Soft, silvery pink. Petals somewhat incurved. Tubers, each 75c.

Cole Hewins—Peony. Coppery yellow, with bronze shadings toward edges of petals. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Col. Roosevelt—Decor. Very large flowering, purplish red. Tubers, each 50c.

Ceylon—Peony. Buff color, with autumn tints. A dainty flower, especially good for artistic decoration. Tubers, each 75c.

Chataney—Single type. A very modest little flower, of dainty coloring, of soft, apricot pink. The stem is upright. Tubers, each 50c.

Claret—Double Peony type Dahlia of medium size. Tubers, each 50c.

Correction—Peony. A large flowering variety. Salmon pink, lightly mottled, splashed, and streaked with watermelon red. Our own introduction. Tubers, each \$2.50.

Clarissa-Blanco—Decor. This is one of our largest flowering Dahlias. Deep claret wine color, often with white markings, while many blooms come the solid color. This has been one of our most attractive new introductions. The great depth of this bloom is remarkable in itself. Tubers, each \$5.00.

Constance—Peony. Giant star-shaped flower, on good stem. A startling combination of cerise, rose and carmine. Unusually bright. Tubers, each 75c.

Don Williams—Decor.-P. A seedling from the well-known "Earle Williams" Dahlia. It is a low growing plant, very prolific in bloom, and if it is disbudded, and grown for size, will produce wonderfully large blossoms. Unlike the E. W., it has no red in it, but is of an entirely new shade of lavender, each petal being tipped snow white. Good stems. A good Dahlia. Tubers, each \$7.50.

Dr. H. L. Tevis—Decor. This has long been known as one of the best of the many splendid California Dahlias. Our stock is guaranteed to throw double flowers, it having been improved by us by selection. The bloom is very large and upon an extra strong stem. The colorings in this Dahlia are best described as being of the lighter apricot shades. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Dr. Edwin Kertlan—Peony. Giant flowering. Cerise to plum color. This Dahlia throws many beautiful blossoms, on good stems. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Dream—Peony. One of the most delightful little Dahlias yet introduced. Delicate apricot pink shades. Upright stems. Splendid for cutting. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Doazon—Decor. One of the older varieties, but nevertheless desirable on account of its rich coloring of orange red, shading to burnt orange toward the center, and also on account of its immense size. Tubers, each 50c.

Delice—Decor. A bright yet soft pink. A florist's Dahlia, on account of its good stem and keeping qualities. Tubers, each 25c.

Early Dawn—Peony. A small, dainty bloom, in great profusion, on upright stem. Soft, bright rose pink. Tubers, each 50c.

Empress—Cactus. A most unusual coloring of lilac pink. A very large, fine exhibition variety. Tubers, each 75c.

Electric—Cactus. Bright golden yellow, tipped with white. Slightly incurved petals. A distinctive flower. Tubers, each 50c.

Elko—Peony. A splendid Dahlia. Red and gold suffusion, each petal being tipped gold. Tubers, each \$1.00.



Mr. Earle Williams, the well known movie star, visits Del Monte and inspects the Earle Williams Dahlia--the finest varigated Dahlia in existence, without exception.

Earle Williams—Decor. This is, without a doubt, one of the finest of all Dahlias, and as a variegated Dahlia it has no competitors. It is in a class by itself. The brilliant crimson and white of this flower are well distributed. It has both blooming quality and size, with a very luxuriant foliage. The blooms keep for weeks upon the plant. No Dahlia collection can be complete without this variety. Our stock is especially good. Our own introduction. Tubers, each \$7.50.

Ella Naoma Pierce—Double-Peony. This Dahlia is another of the choice red shades so much admired in our own varieties. DuBarry red, overlaid with blue flame. Unusually fine this past season. Tubers, each \$1.50.

Expression—Decor.-Peony. One of our finest, new creamy white Dahlias. A 1923 introduction. Wonderfully good blooming plant, while the size of the flower is well above the average. Tubers, each \$2.50.

F. W. Fellowes—Cactus. A rich, orange colored blossom of large size, and with sharp-pointed petals. Very fine. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Fancy Free—Peony. A splendid companion for the last named variety, as a cut flower especially. It is one of the showy sort, it being a bright violet to roselake. Also very prolific in bloom. Tubers, each 50c.

Fascination—Cactus. A good size bloom of delicate shell pink, shading to white at center. Tubers, each 75c.

Geo. Walters—Decor.-Peony. Another of California's fine Dahlias. Salmon to shrimp pink shades. Extra strong stems. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Geisha—Peony. A most attractive Dahlia. The color is orange scarlet, with yellow center, the deeper tones paling off toward the tips of the petals. The petals show more twists and curls than almost any other Dahlia. Tubers, each 50c.

Garibaldi—Peony. A large flower, upon a good stem. Deep cherry red. Tubers, each 75c.

Golden Pheasant—P. Bright brick red and gold suffusion. Long, strong stems. Tubers, each 75c.

Golden West—Cactus. Golden yellow, suffused bronze. The petals are quite broad and taper sharply to the point. Tubers, each 50c.

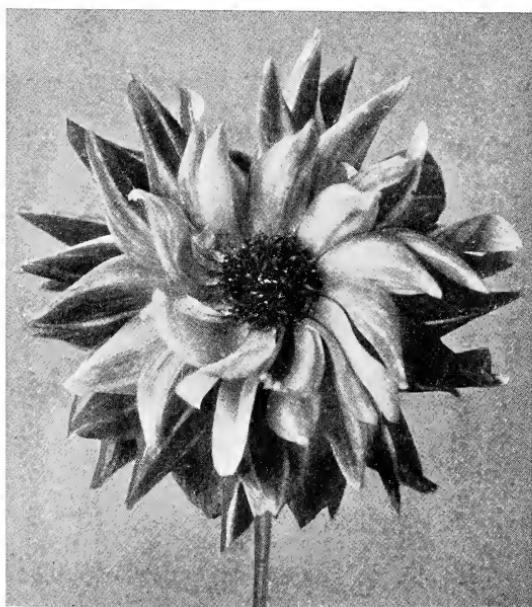
Grace Strohn—Peony. Giant, star-shaped bloom, of a pleasing shade of golden yellow. A splendid new Dahlia of our own introduction. \$2.00.

Golden Queen—Decor. Golden yellow, shaded deep orange red. A beautiful and large flower. Another 1923 introduction. Tubers, each \$2.50.

Glinda—P. Coppery shades, with a suggestion of soft pink. Medium size flower, on good stem. Tubers, each 50c.

Gen. Fred Funston—Decor. Purplish magenta. Good stem and blooming qualities. A splendid value. Tubers, each 50c.

Golden Opportunity—Show type. Here we have another of our finest Dahlias in this type. Rich, buttercup yellow, shaded burnt orange, directly in the center of the flower. Always upon good, strong stems. Tubers, each \$2.50.



HONG KONG
HAS PROVEN TO BE
AN ESPECIALLY
ATTRACTIVE
NEW DAHLIA

Hong Kong—Peony flowering. Oriental colors, of deep buttercup yellow toward the center, while the outer petals are shaded a deep tomato red. A Dahlia that pleases almost everyone. Our own. Tubers, each \$2.50.



SPREADING OAKS ENHANCE THE BEAUTY OF OUR GARDEN

Harvelia—Peony. Soft rose pink, shading to carmine toward the large, yellow center. A long, strong stem. The blooms are of good size. Stock is very limited. Tubers, each \$3.00.

Her Royal Majesty—Decor.-Peony. Deepest rose to royal lavender. Very beautiful, glossy foliage. The bloom is of medium size. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Hi Johnson—Decor. Deep, dark velvety maroon, often marked paper white, which with this variety is an added attraction. Tubers, each \$2.00.

Hope Slater—Peony. Clear, lemon yellow, shading lighter at tips of petals. Has a good upright stem and is free in blooming quality. The blooms are not large, but are of fair size. Tubers, each \$2.00.

H. J. Lovink—Peony. A large, straight-petaled variety of good quality. Rose and lavender shades, on white ground. Tubers, each 50c.

Hollywood—Peony. While this is not a large bloom, it is one of the most beautiful Dahlias in our gardens, especially early in the season. It is a low growing plant that throws a mass of soft pink and yellow shaded flowers, upon good stems. You will like it. Our own. Tubers, each \$1.00.

H. A. Hyde—Decor.-Peony. Another of our recent introductions. Claret wine color, often with white markings. The florets are beautifully and wonderfully curved and twisted. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Harvest Moon—Decor. A beautifully colored flower, slightly bordering toward the Cactus type. Clear, light sulphur yellow. Very prolific in bloom. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Helen Dernbaugh—Decor.-Cactus. Has long been considered one of the best. A delicate shade of blush pink. Tubers, each \$1.50.

Issaquah—Peony. A good, free flowering, rosy lavender Dahlia, on a stout and upright stem. Tubers, each 50c.

Jason—Peony. Richest burgundy, shaded maroon. Of good habits and quality throughout. Tubers, each \$1.00.

John Dough of Oz—Peony. An exceptionally good Dahlia, of our recent introduction. Sulphur yellow, lightened up with a faint suggestion of orange, making this very much desired by all who see it. Tubers, each \$2.50.

Jupiter—Light pink, splashed crimson, yellow base. Free blooming. Very unusual and attractive with its incurved petals. Tubers, each 75c.

Justice Bailey—Decor.-Cactus. Good size bloom of shell pink, shading to white toward center. Blossoms in great profusion. Tubers, each 50c.

John Lewis Childs—Decor. Blood red and gold, often marked white. A bold, attractive flower, always coming good size. A Californian. Tubers, each \$2.50.

John Rideing—Cactus. One of the finest Cactus type Dahlias to date. It is of immense size, with long, sharp-pointed petals. Deep, rich crimson. Tubers, each 75c.

Jane Selby—Decor.-Peony. Silvery rose pink, upon a good stem. This is a most satisfactory Dahlia in every way. Tubers, each 75c.

Kalif—Decor.-Cactus. A majestic flower, often measuring over nine inches in diameter. Glowing scarlet. Tubers, each 75c.

King of Autumn—Peony. A beautiful shade of burnt amber, with a tinge of old rose. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Liberty—Peony. Loose, wavy petals, of brightest salmon red. Always a general favorite, on account of its distinctive color. Tubers, each 75c.

Leo XIII—Peony. A good standard variety. Clear, deep yellow. Very free blooming. Tubers, each 75c.

La Cigale—Peony. A pleasing shade of lemon yellow, shading lighter toward the center. One of our newer Dahlias. A splendid contrasting companion to our La Americaine. Tubers, each \$2.50.

La Americaine—Decor. Here we have one of the brightest and prettiest of flowers. A bright cerise, unusual, and most desirable. Tubers, each \$2.50.

Leila Hamilton—Peony. A large, star-shaped flower, of soft rose pink, with a deeper rose shading. Our own. Tubers, each \$1.00.

La Creole—Decor.-Peony. 1923 introduction. A beautiful, medium size bloom of dark cherry red. Tubers, each \$2.50.

Lou Colmore—Decor.-Peony. Large flowering, combination of red, tan and buff. Can be forced to immense size. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Lorraine—Peony. Cerise coloring, free blooming. Tubers, each 50c.

Latona—Peony. Light creamy yellow, shaded with amber. Excellent stem. Tubers, each 75c.

La Favorita—Decor.-Cactus. A beautiful, large, orange colored Dahlia. It is one of the California Dahlias of merit. Tubers, each \$1.50.

La Jolla—Decor.-Cactus. A star-shaped flower, of deepest rosy lilac. Tubers, each 75c.

L. R. Kissing—Decor. One of our own splendid, large flowering Dahlias. The color is light red, of a pleasing shade. Very fine. Tubers, each \$2.00.

Lionel—Peony. A good new Dahlia. Pure white flowers, upon good stem. Another of our introduction. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Le Grande Manitou—Decor. The ground color is white, streaked with an attractive shade of violet purple. Nothing more attractive. Strong growing plants. Tubers, each 75c.

Lullingstone—Peony. There are several shades of red in this splendid Dahlia, which almost convey the impression that it is of pink coloring, so we will call it watermelon red. It has good habits. Tubers, each 75c.

Meyerbeer—P. A very long-stemmed variety, while the bloom is of immense size. Color, purplish wine, shaded maroon. Of intense coloring throughout. Tubers, each 75c.

Marston—P. Brick red and tan shades. Medium to large; very free in bloom. Tubers, each 75c.

Mme. Van den Dael—P. Softest silvery rose pink. Tubers, each 25c.

Mondscheibe—An upright flowering Dahlia of great merit. Broad, pointed petals; clear canary yellow. Tubers, each 75c.

Mrs. Geo. Pope—Decor. Very large flowering, creamy yellow with a suggestion of rose. Tubers, each 75c.

Maybelle Eckland—Peony. One of the finest dark Dahlias. We sell out of stock of this variety, each season, which is proof of the quality. An unusually hardy variety. The colorings are two shades of red, which we will describe as maroon and wine shades. It has a very rich, velvety texture. Our own. Tubers, each \$1.00.

MERCI—P. Most delicate, soft satiny pink. A semi-double flower, somewhat pointed at the tips. This Dahlia is another seedling from "Sweet Remembrance," much lighter in color, and with its extra long, strong stems is an exceptionally fine cut flower variety. Tubers, each 75c.

Melba—Decor.-Cactus. Long, narrow petals of a clear cerise. Tubers, each 50c.
each 75c.

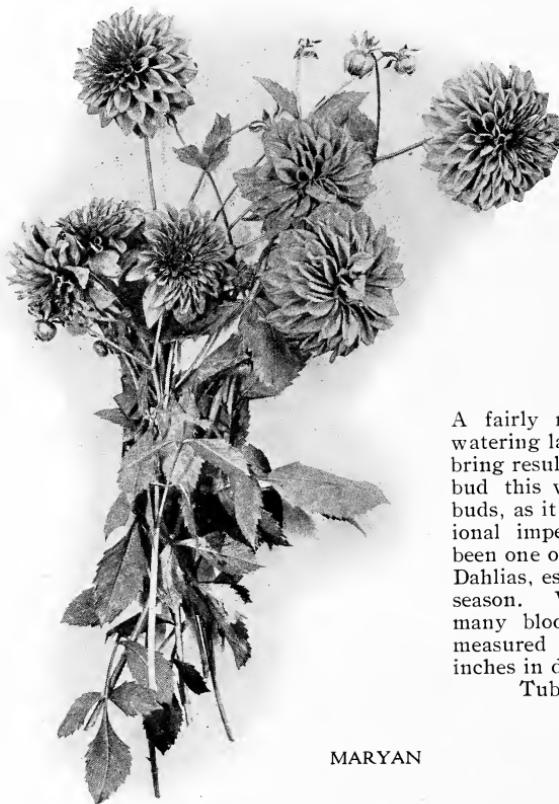
Mrs. R. B. Eliot—Decor.-S. Snow white flower with quilled petals. Tubers,

Maroon King—Decor. An especially fine, new Dahlia of our introduction. This is at its best early in the season, when it will throw blossoms of great beauty and immense size. Deep velvety maroon. Tubers, each \$2.00.

Miles Standish—Decor.-Peony. Deepest transparent rose, heavily shaded carmine throughout. Strong grower, good stem, and profuse bloomer. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Mrs. Carl Salbach—Decor. An immense bloom of lavender pink. A perfect exhibition variety, and one of the California prize winners. This will please you. Tubers, each \$2.00.

Mary Franklin Zane—Peony. Star-shaped blossoms, large flowering. Deep, carmine rose and lemon shades. Most attractive, with its twisted florets. Tubers, each \$2.50.



MARYAN

Mrs. J. T. York—Decor.-Peony. Deep maroon shades, often with white markings. Tubers, each 75c.

Mme. Renard—Peony-Cactus. Medium size blossoms, in wonderful number, upon strong, wiry stems. The color is a coral pink, with amber shadings. Both dainty and pretty. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Magnificent—Cactus. Rosy salmon pink. A beautiful California Dahlia. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Mary Purrier—Cactus. The best crimson scarlet Dahlia in this type. We have extra fine stock of this variety. Tubers, each 75c.

Maryan—Dec. A giant flowering Dahlia, of our own introduction. This is one of the best of the many fine California introductions. Rich orange, apricot and buff shades. Splendid, hardy growth, throughout the entire plant. This is a plant that will stand being forced.

A fairly rich soil, and heavy watering late in the season, will bring results. Be certain to disbud this variety to the perfect buds, as it will throw an occasional imperfect bud. It has been one of the most dependable Dahlias, especially so, late in the season. We have had ever so many blooms of Maryan, that measured from nine to eleven inches in diameter.

Tubers each \$1.00.



FRANCES LEURS

LADEN WITH BLOSSOMS OF THE WIZARD OF OZ

HAZEL THULLEN

Minna Burgle—Decor. Intense crimson-scarlet. Keeps well when cut. Tubers, each 25c.

MRS. F. C. BURNS—This beautiful shell pink decorative is one of the best for all purposes and never fails to attract attention by its lovely coloring. A prize winner. \$2.00.

Mrs. W. E. Estes—Decor.-Cactus. A very fine, new, snow white Dahlia of much merit. Broad and long, pointed petals, forming a flower of great size. This is easily the best white Dahlia to date. Tubers, each \$1.50.

MRS. GARRETT ROEST—Peony. A new type of Dahlia; comes quite single, the petals being well rounded at the tips, while the color is golden yellow, with a suggestion of pink. The bright yellow center is of exceptional size. Another fine cut flower. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Morning Star—Peony. Cherry red, with white markings. Free in bloom and of good size. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Mrs. C. H. Breck—Decor.-Cactus. This Dahlia has wonderful blooming qualities. The colorings are a combination of cream, lemon, and rosy carmine. Tubers, each 50c.

Mons. Capron—Decor. Violet maroon, edged white. Very attractive. Tubers, each 75c.

Mrs. E. V. R. Whitcomb—Single-Peony. A pretty little, paper white flower, upon a good, strong stem. Tubers, each 50c.

Mme. Henri Cayeux—Cactus. A soft rose to shell pink. A very desirable color. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Modell—Cactus-Peony. A very modest little flower, upon a good stem. Creamy, rose pink. Tubers, each 50c.

Mrs. Edna Spencer—Decor.-Cactus. Another Dahlia of exceptionally refined appearance. A pretty shade of lavender or orchid pink. One of the Californians of merit. Tubers, each \$1.50.

Natomi—Decor.-Peony. Do not order this Dahlia unless a number of types may be expected upon the one plant, as this is characteristic of this Dahlia to throw both double and semi-double blooms. It is most artistic and was greatly admired in our garden this past season. Tawny shades of golden yellow and orange. It is immense in size and with excellent stem. One of our 1923 introductions. Tubers, each \$5.00.

Norman Nulty—Peony. 1923 introduction of our own. The color is of a deep and rich shade of apricot. The stems are extra long and upright. A valuable cut flower variety. Tubers, each \$2.00.

Nibelungenhort—Cactus. Somewhat on the Decorative type, it having quite broad petals of amber shading to salmon pink. Excellent. Tubers, each 75c.

Nobilis—Decor. This is almost a counterpart of the variety "Earle Williams," of which it is a sport. It is of identical coloring to the latter, excepting that in this variety the white predominates, and the bloom is, perhaps, an inch smaller in size, yet this is a splendid Dahlia. Crimson and white. Tubers, each \$2.50.

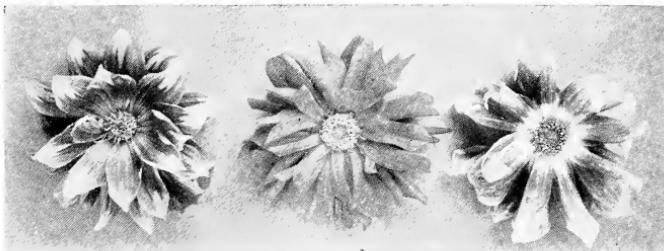
Oddity—Peony. A new type of Dahlia. Rose lake in color, each petal prettily bordered white, and curved inwardly at edges. Tubers, each 75c.

Ohio Belle—Peony. Canary yellow. Quite double, with long stem, and also very prolific in bloom. Tubers, each \$1.00.

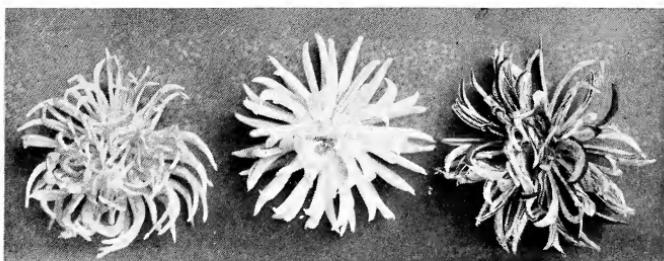
O. R. Burton—Peony. One of our most valuable early varieties. Light lemon, shading to almost white, as the blossom develops. Extra long, stout stem. This variety is very prolific in bloom. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Oriana—Peony. An orchid pink shade, which is very much admired. The blooms are of good size. Tubers, each 75c.

Orange Doazon—Decor. Mammoth in size, with broad petals and fine stems. A rich shade of orange red. Tubers, each \$1.00.



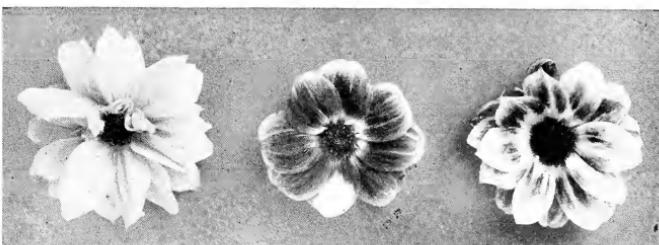
PEONY
FLOWERING



CACTUS
TYPES



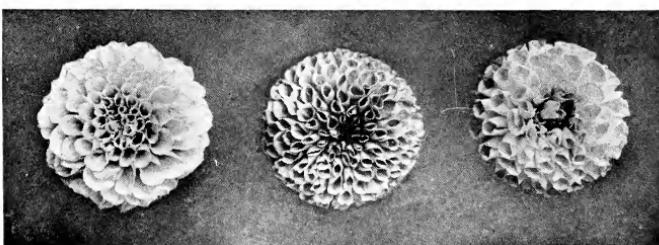
DECORATIVE
TYPES



1. PEONY
TYPE

2. SINGLE

3. PEONY
TYPE



1.
DECORATIVE
SHOW

2 and 3
SHOW
TYPES

Paramount—Peony. White, suffused carmine rose. A good new variety. Very attractive. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Pathé—Peony. Giant flowering. Cerise to carmine, shading lighter at tips of petals. Tubers, each \$2.50.

Paradise Found—Double Peony. Truly a wonderful, new Dahlia of our 1923 introduction. The plant throws a bloom of great depth, while the diameter is also immense. The color is a clear canary yellow. Very few, if any, grow as large as this, and its other characteristics are all a credit to the variety. Tubers, each \$10.00.

Perle Ruggles—Peony. A splendid new variety, introduced by its namesake. Ground color is white, suffused with rosy carmine pink. Tubers, each \$2.00.

Pride of California—Decor. Throws good, large blooms of a deep red color, on upright stem. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Princess Pat—Decor. In my opinion, one of California's best Dahlias. Beautiful shade of old rose. Stout stems, and blooms are of excellent size and type. Tubers, each \$2.00.

Purple Manitou—Decor. Large flowering, and on good, strong stem. Royal purple. Tubers, each 75c.

Queen of Violets—Peony. A beautiful flower from every point of view. A solid color, between rose lake and violet. L. E. D. Tubers, each \$2.50.

Radiant Happiness—Single. One of the few single Dahlias of unusual merit. Carmine rose, with lemon yellow shadings toward the golden yellow center. Brightness personified. It blossoms in great profusion and is valuable for table decoration. Tubers, each 50c.

Radiance—Peony. A large flowering variety of intense coloring. Cerise and purple shades, marked white. The plant is a robust grower. Tubers, each \$2.50.

Radin Kartini—Peony. Salmon pink shades, veined with yellow. Upright stems. Medium to large size blooms. Tubers, each 75c.

Sincerity—Decor. A very free flowering Dahlia, of light, sulphur yellow. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Star of Washington—Peony. Soft, light rose pink. Hardy, upright growth. Tubers, each 50c.

Silician Beauty—Peony. Combination colors of cerise, maroon, and white. Very pretty. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Sunset's Glow—Decor. This Dahlia has all the tints of a sunset's glow. Splendid flowers on exceptionally strong stem. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Santa Barbara—Decor.-Peony. Soft pink and yellow shades. Satiny and rich in beauty. Tubers, each 75c.

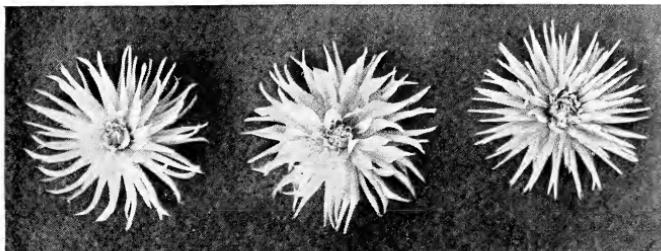
Sweet Brier—Cactus. Soft, silvery, shell pink. Petals slightly incurved. Tubers, each 75c.

Sunshine—Decor. A large flower with broad petals of bright red and gold. Very fine flowering. A new California Dahlia. Tubers, each \$1.00.

The Magic Flower of Oz—Decor.-Peony. Light coppery yellow, shaded with bronze. We cannot speak too highly of this Dahlia, especially early in the season. It has wonderful coloring, great, long stems, and often has as many as 15 blooms upon a plant at one time. This is one of our newest introductions. Tubers, each \$2.50.

The Bumble Bee's Wonderland—Peony. A pleasing shade of mauve pink, heavily marked carmine to violet rose about the yellow disc. Very fine. Tubers, each \$1.00.

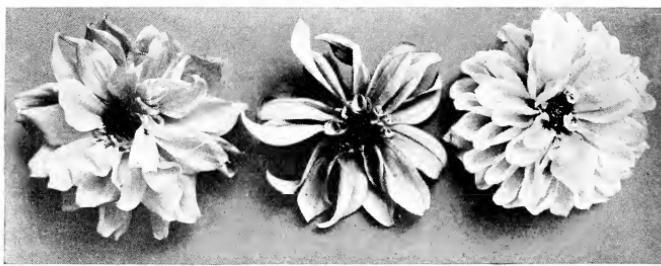
The Lyons—Cactus. An incurved petal, bloom of good size, and the color of the Lyons rose. Amber to flesh pink, with a suggestion of flame. A bold, fine flower. Tubers, each 75c.



CACTUS
TYPES



DECORATIVE
TYPES

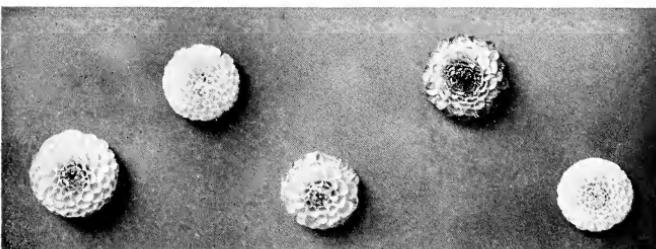


1 and 2
PEONY
TYPES

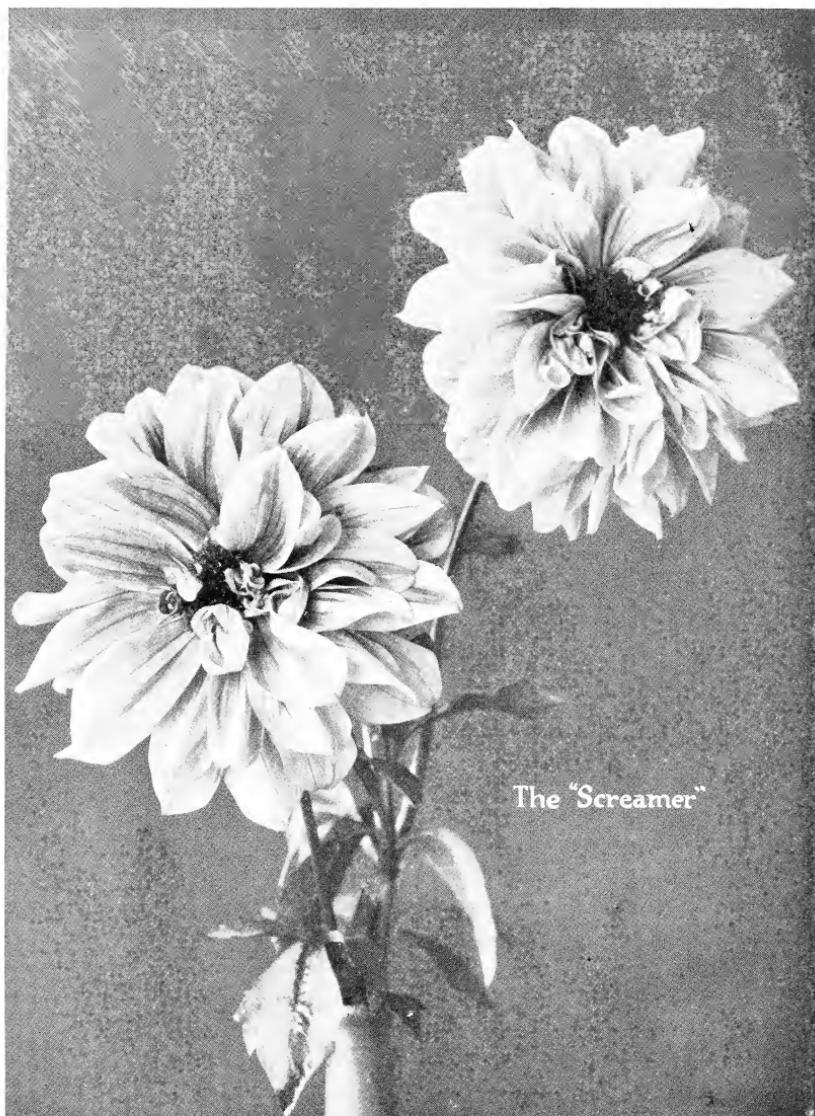
3.
DECORATIVE
PEONY



PEONY
FLOWERING
TYPES



POMPON
TYPES
Plants grow low



The Screamers—Peony. This is another of our most recent introductions, and one that is doing well wherever grown. A large size flower with two to three rows of petals. Extra long, strong stems. The color is violet purple, suffused mauve. To those who like these colorings, this Dahlia has no equal. It is an exceptionally attractive flower. Tubers, each \$7.50.

The Bronze Orange—Peony. Bright tones of orange and bronze. Quite double, and free in bloom. Tubers, each \$1.00.

The Sawhorse of “OZ”—Peony. A beautiful flower of tan and apricot tints, suffused with yellow. Long, sharp pointed petals with wavy effect. Free in bloom. Tubers, each \$1.50.



THE LITTLE PINK
KITTY OF OZ

The Little Pink Kitten of Oz—Peony. Soft blush pink, shaded amber. It is considered to be one of the prettiest flowers in our garden, although the blooms are never over 5 or 6 inches in diameter. Long, strong stems, and prolific in the number of blooms. This is a most beautiful variety. Our own. Tubers, each \$1.00.

The Yellow Hen of “OZ”—Decor.-Peony. Clear canary yellow. Long and strong stem. Good yellow Dahlias are scarce. This one is fine. Tubers, each \$1.00.

The Millionaire—Decor. Most beautiful lavender shades, which lighten and darken in accordance with weather conditions. This is one of the finest and largest Dahlias in existence, of which variety we have exceptionally splendid stock. Tubers, each \$1.50.

The Little Brown Bear of Oz—Single-Peony. A pretty blossom, upon good stem. The color is mahogany red, shading to brown. Prolific in bloom. Tubers, each 75c.

The Shaggy Man of Oz—Decor.-Peony. Long, shaggy, sharp-pointed petals. The color is deep, claret wine, tipped and marked with white. Of good size, and hardy, upright growth. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Traufner's Choice—Decor.-Cactus. Large, and free flowering, upon an extra strong stem. The plant is always a mass of bloom, all season. The color is a soft yet bright, rosy pink. Tubers, each \$1.00.

Tonopah—Peony. Golden yellow, suffused bright brick red. The entire bloom is overlaid with a golden sheen. Broad petals, rounded at tips. The flower has a prominent golden yellow disc. Good stems, and very free in bloom. Tubers, each \$1.00.



THE
CHOCOLATE
SOLDIER

The Chocolate Soldier—Cactus-Peony. This is one of the newer of our introductions, and is of an entirely new type of Dahlia. The color is a rare shade in Dahlias, also, it being a chocolate maroon. The plant has an upright, hardy growth, with extra strong stems. The diameter of the flower is from 7 to 9 inches, and even larger, under the proper conditions. This is one of the most admired of our Dahlias. Tubers, each \$5.00.

Tom Lundy—Decor.-Peony. Another giant flowering Dahlia, of California origin. Deep red, with still deeper shadings. Tubers, each 75c.

The Grizzly—Peony. Deepest cherry red. A very large and splendid California Dahlia. Tubers, each \$2.00.

The Truth Pond of Oz—Peony. A long, strong stemmed variety, of much merit. A rich buff color, with shadings of apricot tones. Tubers, each \$1.50.

Uncle Henry of Oz—Decor.-Show. Deepest rose or lilac color, upon wonderfully strong, upright stem. The blossoms are of good size, and are much admired. Tubers, each \$1.50.

Van Dyke—Peony. This variety is especially good for basket decoration. It is of soft, salmon shades. Tubers, each 75c.

The Wizard of Oz—Decor. In our opinion, this is the finest Dahlia in existence today. It remains supreme over all the splendid recent California introductions. One customer reports having grown this Dahlia almost 14 inches in diameter. It is a flower of refined appearance, regardless of its mammoth size. If this Dahlia has one weak point, we do not know of it. The color is a rare shade of glowing amber pink, or soft, salmon pink shades. Our own introduction. Tubers, each \$15.00.



Vasanta—Cactus-Peony. "Goddess of the Four Seasons." Rich apricot and golden yellow shades. A new Dahlia, and a new type. One of our own. Tubers, each \$5.00.

Whidby—Single-Peony. Of most delicate coloring. Flesh, or blush pink, on white ground. Very free flowering, and with excellent stem. Tubers, each 75c.

Wodan—Decor.-Cactus. Soft, old rose and salmon shades, with a suggestion of old gold toward the center. Tubers, each 75c.

Woozy of Oz—Decor. Creamy pink, with a suggestion of deeper tones of rose pink. Large and free flowering. With disbudding, this can be grown wonderfully beautiful. Our own. Tubers, each \$2.00.

Yellow Collose—Decor.-Show. Canary yellow. Unusually free flowering. Tubers, each 25c.

Yellow King—Decor.-Cactus. A very large flower, grown upon a small plant. The color is a rich lemon yellow. Tubers, each \$1.00.

HOW TO ORDER

The foregoing list of Dahlias are all splendid varieties, and one cannot mistake in ordering any or all of them. If it so happens that you are already growing Dahlias, it might be well to select from this list, so as not to duplicate varieties that you already have. In case you have no Dahlias at all, or none of my introductions, I strongly urge that the selection be left to my discretion. In doing this, you are putting me upon my honor and at the same time, as you no doubt now realize, you would be in the hands of a specialist in Dahlias. We fill many orders of this sort, and are enabled to give special prices upon our own selection, as follows: **100 tubers for \$75.00, 50 tubers for \$40.00, 25 tubers for \$20.00, 12 tubers for \$10.00.** These include varieties ranging in individual values from 75c to as great as \$5.00; **25** or more varieties, extra fine values, \$1.00 each.

All prices quoted in this Catalogue include postage, so that only the amount of the order should be sent us. We acknowledge receipt of all orders and payments. Every tuber may be expected to be marked with the correct name and description, and full printed instructions in Dahlia culture will accompany each order. All orders sent in the Spring, after danger of frosts, unless we receive other instructions from the customer.

POMPON DAHLIAS

The Pompon type of Dahlia is the "Baby" Dahlia of them all. At first glance, one not acquainted with this type would think that it belonged to another sphere, other than the Dahlia World. Nevertheless, this is a very popular little plant, and are especially so for a cut flower, as they are often kept a week's time. These plants grow quite low, and should be a mass of bloom all season.

We offer a splendid selection of these at 50c each or a dozen may be had for \$3.50; 50 tubers for \$12.50, or 100 tubers for \$25.00.

Amber Queen—A long-stemmed variety. Golden amber.

Achilles—Delicate lavender, tinted lilac.

Arthur Kerley—Deep, rich cherry red.

Annie Doncaster—Autumn tints, shaded soft lavender.

Bobby—Splendid form. Magenta to plum color.

Bronze Beauty—A pretty golden bronze colored little bloom.

Cheerfulness—Cream, shaded soft pink.

Clarissa—Delicate flesh pink, beautifully quilled.

Donovan—White, deeply tinged lavender. Very satisfactory.

Darkness—Very dark. Maroon to chocolate.

Dew Drop—White, softly shaded lavender. A beauty.

Fascination—Very fine. Pink and lavender shades.

Gloria—Maroon, wine, and white. New and splendid.

Geo. Ireland—Lavender to mauve.

Hecla—Creamy white.

Helen Lambert—Canary yellow.

Henrietta—Deep sulphur yellow, bordered rosy lilac. Fine.

Ideal—Clear canary yellow.

J. Fette—A splendid pure white.

Leader—One of the best. Clear, light lemon yellow.

Little Jennie—Straw color. None prettier than this one.

Little Beeswing—Golden yellow, heavily marked cherry red.

Little Johnny—Deep maroon. Very small.

Nellie Fraser—A light shade of pinkish lavender.

Prince Charming—Lavender shades, touched with violet and deep rose.

Pure Love—A pure lavender.

San Toy—One of the favorites. White, tinged carmine.

Sunny Daybreak—Yellow and orange red suffusion.

Sunbeam—Crimson scarlet. Very bright.

Sunset—Orange color. Always desirable.

Vivid—Brightest scarlet.

Winifred—White. One of the most beautiful of all Pompons.

Special Offers for 1923

OUR REPUTATION STANDS BACK OF EVERY ONE OF THESE

DAHLIAS

Offer No. 1 12 DAHLIAS Large flowering varieties— all named. Our selection. An exceptional value. \$5.00 POST PAID	Offer No. 2 6 DAHLIAS Different types. Large flowering. Standard varieties. All named. Our selection. \$2.75 POST PAID	Offer No. 3 25 DAHLIAS Large flowering. Standard. Named varieties. Our Selection. \$10.00 POST PAID
Offer No. 4 OUR CHOICE COLLECTION of 25 BEST Large Flowering DAHLIAS None better—A \$30 value \$20.00 POST PAID	Offer No. 5 50 DAHLIAS Our choice of Largest Flowering Varieties. None Better. \$40.00 POST PAID	Offer No. 6 100 DAHLIAS Same quality as Offers No. 4 and 5—No two alike, and all are of wonderful beauty. All types. \$75.00 POST PAID
Offer No. 7 12 PEONY FLOWERING DAHLIAS All of large size. Very Desirable Varieties \$5.00 POST PAID	Offer No. 8 12 DECORATIVE TYPE of DAHLIAS All Large Flowering. No two alike \$5.00 POST PAID	Offer No. 9 12 CACTUS and DEC- ORATIVE CACTUS DAHLIAS All different. Carefully selected from hundreds of varieties \$5.00 POST PAID
Offer No. 10 Pompon Dahlias Miniture Flowering The Newest and Choicest Varieties. 12 tubers—All named. \$3.50 POST PAID	Offer No. 11 50 Pompon Dahlias 2 each of 25 varieties \$12.50 POST PAID	Offer No. 12 102 Pompon Dahlias 3 each of 34 varieties \$25.00 POST PAID

PLEASE ORDER BY NUMBER

CLASSIFICATION OF DAHLIAS

Suggested Methods—By Leslie E. Doolittle

To those Dahlia lovers who exhibit, would I ask a listening ear. And, should these ideas meet with your approval, take the matter up with your Dahlia Society at once, endeavor to get their support, and have your Secretary ask for an endorsement of the larger Dahlia Societies of the U. S. A.

A startling fact is manifested in all Dahlia blossoms of today, in that **no two varieties are of exactly the same type**. True, many resemble each other, and as comparison is made, and classification undertaken, the question has been, "Just where shall we draw the line between types?"

We have many new types of Dahlias, constantly appearing, which are not recognized as presentable exhibition varieties, and which, if shown in their best form, could not well be expected to qualify in any class now scheduled by any Dahlia Society in America.

Now, what are we going to do about it? Are we going to continue not to recognize these newer types? Do you not realize that the newer types of Dahlias will very shortly be in the majority?

As truly as we have new types in Dahlias, our older varieties are also changing slightly, each season. **NOTHING** in this world is as **CONSTANT** as **CHANGE**.

We should eliminate the word or term "hybrid" in describing a Dahlia, and at our exhibits, for the very good reason that the term is misapplied. My dictionary says that a "hybrid" is a cross between two species. A cross between two varieties of Dahlias, or, in other words, a cross between two of the same species cannot rightfully be called a "hybrid."

The fact that Dahlia growers of Europe may have done this, or that, for a few hundred years back, doesn't mean anything to the 100 per cent American. Let us show Americanism with our U. S. A. Dahlias.

Why not use these terms at our Dahlia shows—and call them by just what the type of blossom really is: Cactus, Cactus-Peony, Decorative-Peony, Decorative, Decorative-Cactus, Peony, Show, Decorative-Show, and so forth? In this way we could readily describe any certain type of Dahlia. The older and usual method of using the word "hybrid" does not designate but one of two types, where two types are plainly seen in the bloom.

Should these suggestions meet with the approval of the reader, I would appreciate a few lines from anyone who is sufficiently interested to write, and I also request that permission be granted me to publish such opinions as may be expressed. I would like, also, to use the name of my correspondent.

Dahlia growers should be especially interested in a better plan of Classification of Dahlias than we have had. Theodore Roosevelt has said: "Every man owes a part of his time to the profession to which he belongs."

For the best interests of the Dahlia, I am

Very sincerely yours,

LESLIE E. DOOLITTLE.

Del Monte, California.

*WE
SPECIALIZE*

